

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADANA 00192 090956Z

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FM AMCONSUL ADANA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU

SUBJ: AMERICAN-TURKISH RELATIONS IN ADANA: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

REF: ANKARA 5169

1. OUR WELL-ATTENDED JULY 4 RECEPTION REINFORCED LOCALLY
IMPRESSION REPORTED REFTEL THAT TURKS --ESPECIALLY AT
OFFICIAL LEVEL -- SEEM WELL DISPOSED TOWARD THE UNITED
STATES. SENIOR PROVINCE OR LOCAL OFFICIALS EITHER ATTENDED
OR SENT REGRETS. IN SPONTANEOUS RESPONSE TO MY BI-CEN-
TENNIAL TOAST, FORMER RPP SENIOR KAZIM GULEK OFFERED

PAGE 2 RUFLEPA4476 C O N F I D E N T I A L

COUNTER TOAST PRAISING AMERICAN ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY AND
STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE AND RELEVANCE OF THE AMERICAN
POLITICAL EXPERIENCE IN TURKEY'S CONSTITUTIONAL DE-
VELOPMENT.

2. TWO PAPERS (GUNAYDIN, YENI ADANA) SENT PHOTOGRAPHERS
TO RECEPTION -- WITH FRONT PAGE COVERAGE SUBSEQUENTLY
RESULTING IN YENI ADANA -- AND A THIRD (HURRIYET), WHOSE
LOCAL REPORTER WAS OUT OF TOWN ON THE 4TH, CAME TO
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PAGE 02 ADANA 00192 090956Z

THE CONSULATE TO TAKE PICTURES ON THE 6TH.

3. KEY LOCAL FIGURES SUCH AS ADANA PROVINCE GOVERNOR LUTFI TUNCEL (WHOM I AM TOLD IS HELD IN VERY HIGH REGARD HERE) HAVE BEEN MARKEDLY CORDIAL. FOR EXAMPLE, THE GOVERNOR NOT ONLY TOOK MORE THAN AN HOUR OUT OF A BUSY SCHEDULE TO SEE OFF DEPARTING CONSUL RALPH JONES AT THE AIRPORT JUNE 24, BUT ALSO DEMONSTRATIVELY ESCORTED THE JONES FAMILY TO THE ANKARA PLANE BEFORE THE WAITING EYES OF THEIR FELLOW PASSENGERS WHO WERE KEPT STANDING BEHIND A ROPE WHILE THIS SEND OFF WAS COMPLETED.
4. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE USAF COMMUNITY AT INCIRLIK AND THE TURKISH COMMUNITY ALSO SEEM EXCELLENT. THERE IS

PAGE 3 RUFLEPA4476 C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPERIOR LEADERSHIP ON BOTH SIDES. COL. ORHUN, THE TURKISH COMMANDER, IS A STRONG OFFICER WHO COMMANDS THE RESPECT OF HIS AMERICAN COLLEAGUES. THE SAME MAY BE SAID OF COL. NELSON AND HIS COMMANDERS ON THE AMERICAN SIDE.

5. DURING MY SHORT TIME HERE, I HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY STRUCK BY A SOPHISTICATION DISPLAYED BY MOST AMERICANS AT ALL RANKS WHICH ENABLES THEM TO DISTINGUISH NOT ONLY BETWEEN TURKS AS INDIVIDUALS AND TURKISH INSTITUTIONS BUT AMONG THE INSTITUTIONS THEMSELVES. THUS SEVERAL AMERICANS HAVE BEEN AT PAINS TO DESCRIBE TO ME THE SPECIAL TRADITIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL CHARACTER OF THE TURKISH CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION. THIS DIFFERENTIATED APPROACH BESPEAKS AN EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP AND INFORMATION PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE INDIVIDUAL HIGH QUALITY OF USAF PERSONNEL SERVING HERE.

VON DEN STEINEN

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